



**Association of Veterinary Students Meeting Minutes**

7 Mansfield Street, London, W1G 9NQ  
8th October 2016, 10am – 5.30pm

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
  - a. [Joon Park](#), [Grace NihEalaí](#), [Rosie Harrington](#), [Seth Kennard](#)
3. Approval of previous minutes
  - a. [Approved](#)
4. Action points **Enclosure 2**

**Enclosure 1**

	<b>Action Point</b>	<b>Relevant People</b>	<b>Progress</b>
1	Produce a questionnaire regarding EMS regulations that will be shared on facebook for comments.	Policy Group	DONE
2	Rosie to send Hannah a copy of the questionnaire on EMS costs she used.	Rosie Howson	DONE
3	AVS Committee to look into special-foster relationships with EMS placements	Policy Group	NOT DONE
4	AVS Committee to look into the possibility of organizing recent grads to take current students on EMS	Policy Group	NOT DONE
5	Does it cost money to screen for learning difficulties? <a href="#">Cost money to screen:</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <a href="#">Yes (but refunded if positive): Liverpool, Edinburgh</a></li> <li>ii. <a href="#">Means tested: Nottingham, Bristol</a></li> <li>iii. <a href="#">Yes: RVC, Dublin (outside university)</a></li> <li>iv. <a href="#">Unsure: Edinburgh, Cambridge</a></li> </ol>	Senior Reps	DONE
6	Create a universal powerpoint template for each university rep to use	MSG	Done - under 'Rep Essentials' on GD

7	Co-branding on BVA Newsletter	Hannah / Helena	NOT DONE
8	Rosie to speak with Hannah Clifford regarding One Health Conference speakers	Rosie Herrington	DONE
9	Contact each individual university's exchange officer regarding how their exchanges plan to be	IVSA Exchange Officer	ONGOING
10	Inter-uni competition to be set up for AVS surveys and polls, and financed	Treasurer	NOT DONE
11	To come up with a protocol / document on reps' responsibilities.	Becky	NOT DONE
12	Each senior rep to distribute the Vetlife stickers and remove all the old ones with wrong numbers / replace the numbers with new stickers	Senior Reps	DONE (EXCEPT FOR RVC)
13	Google calendar for future welfare events/initiatives	Secretary	
14	Poll on: How do individual uni's record EMS? Could be useful for the standardization of EMS document?	Secretary	
15	Update the google drives	Secretary	
16	Set up captains contact details from all the vet schools	Liv Dower-Tylee	ONGOING
17	To create some proposals of how he would like JAVS online to work	JAVS Editor	ONGOING
18	Look at the cost of having a small number of IVSA/AVS Business cards for Senior Exec/Reps	Treasurer	Done - Will discuss with senior exec
19	Discuss possibility of increasing Congress ticket numbers by hosting students in Potters Bar with Cambridge	Helena	DONE
20	Create draft proposal for a policy on AVS funded travel grants for students to attend international meetings.	Executive	DONE

5. Survey Presentation
  - a. [See other documents](#)
6. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy and Student Engagement
  - i. Give a political viewpoint on our policies, taking our consensus opinions and shaping policies out of it (similar to the BVA). Also every member is to champion a particular policy
  - ii. EMS:
    - 1. Funding: area of focus for the next year
    - 2. Experience: better hands on approach. Approach the RCVS to add it to the practice standard scheme
  - iii. AMR: make sure we are championing this theme
  - iv. Welfare & Brexit issues to be tackled
  - v. Better collaboration with the Young Vet Network
  - vi. Horror in JAVS: similar to the VDS newsletter (push for stories)
  - vii. EMS Standardisation guide has been completed and Liverpool have already made changes according to it.
- b. Welfare
  - i. Mental wellbeing: get the individual reps to get their appropriate university source to release information where to find help etc. (done by Liverpool,)
  - ii. Welfare grants: will be released later this term
  - Welfare day summary of organisation so far
    - Planning is going well, there has been great interest
  - Peer support report - where is this at?
  - Welfare report - we're getting there! (slowly)
    - Survey still shows a too high of proportion of student suffer from mental health issues but we are improving
- c. MSG
  - i. Update:
    - 1. Intercalated profiles, graduate profiles etc. on all the website
    - 2. Myth busters also written and being released soon
      - a. EdVet (a Liverpool? society) is trying to target this too. We will collaborate with them to promote this area further. (website out in a few weeks)
  - ii. New topics:
    - 1. Promotion of AVS meetings: try to engage more people with issues/what is happening at each vet school. Send it out before the meeting and then follow up with a short summary/short video to summarise the outcome of the discussions at the meeting (
- d. IVSA
  - i. Aim to gain closer collaboration between the two associations with IVSA becoming part of AVS
    - 1. Need to update the constitutions of both organisations
    - 2. New logo for international engagement with combination of both IVSA and AVS logo
    - 3. Opportunities for AVS committee members to sit on the global IVSA working groups/standing committees (policy, wellness etc.)
  - ii. Exchanges:

1. Groups exchanges (~50% of the universities do regularly). Trying to get greater engagement of the other exchange officers
2. Individual exchanges: share the promotional material - it's based around organising EMS abroad through the countries of origins IVSA chapter
- iii. AMR: been contacted by PHE AB guardianship campaign
  1. Want to try and increase involvement of all health care profession students (Medics, Pharmacy students, Vet students, Nurses etc.)
  2. Wants to get students at each university to act as Antibiotic Guardian Champions by organising a campaign/event etc. They are offering benefits for the AB Guardian Champions
  3. The link to sign up is in the EMAIL shared around the Friday before the meeting: <https://surveys.phe.org.uk/AGStudentVolunteerNomination>
  4. Reps: please go back to your vet soc to try spread engagement

7. Officer's reports and updates

**Enclosure 3**

a. President

- i. Video:
  1. The video has been received well
- ii. MSG
  1. Went instead of El.
    - a. Veterinary fee's infographic ended
    - b. Last every MSG, now is called Membership Benefits Committee
- iii. Council meeting
  1. Two meetings. Themes were
    - a. Brexit: No-one knows what is going to happen (even the BVA), setting up Brexit working group to make sure that the key aspects are focused on and lobbied appropriately. Feed any ideas to Hannah to pass into the working group
      - i. There is apparently a Brexit Blog made via the BSAVA
    - b. AMR and veterinary medicine, veterinary disease and surveillance, veterinary wellbeing and
- iv. Abersythwyth vet school
  1. Still no information available about what is going to happen
- v. EMS funding
  1. EMS Coordinators meeting: Liverpool is now an extra-long course with Student Finance England, allowing a slightly higher loan available. The Vets School council says they are trying to implement across all other UK vet schools as appropriate.
- vi. Survey
  1. See the presentation notes. Will liaise with BVA press release team
- vii. EMS review
  1. Still ongoing, though has been put on the backfoot due to the impact of Brexit
- viii. Funding and Grants Rep
  1. Someone responsible for the day to day running of the welfare grants etc.
  2. Two year role
    - a. Passed at the committee meeting - Hannah to write job role description

- ix. Lord Balleyedmond
  - 1. Discussions are still ongoing
- x. Emails
  - 1. Please try and cc me into your email
- xi. Exam results:
- b. SVP
  - i. Vet Futures action plan
    - 1. 24 actions have been identified
      - a. Several of them are applicable to students
  - ii. Vet futures student leadership project
    - 1. Recruit some vet students at each university to become vetfuture ambassadors
  - iii. Medsin affiliation
    - 1. Email your medsin branch at each university to try and nurture more collaboration
    - 2. Reviewing the different ways AVS can develop a more formal relationship with Medsin
  - iv. Potential AVS alumni event linked with Congress pub crawl in Cambridge 2017
  - v. AVS Travel Funding application:
    - 1. Shared the information with the committee
    - 2. Attempting to secure funding for the project
- c. JVP
  - i. Mind Matters:
    - 1. They're happy to send someone to attend Congress again if you would like them Ellie.
    - 2. They are running a session at the AVS Welfare Weekend.
    - 3. I have heard nothing about this whole play plan - going ahead, realistically next year - can't be put in the timetable, too logistically challenging - so evening event - by the uni, but you will be asked to contribute to making it a success
    - 4. Mindfulness Webinar series - thanks for sending out that email. There will be a repeat in a few months. Definitely worth promoting further.
  - ii. MSG Meeting Feedback:
    - 1. Profiles of intercalated students
      - a. Online, great profiles from Gareth, Helena and James - thanks pals :)
    - 2. NAVLE
      - a. Online, clear guidelines, linked to JAVS article to provide personal experience
    - 3. Admission Profiles - Interviews with current students
      - a. A few online, although we need more to cover a wider range of routes (awaiting replies...)
    - 4. Graduate Blog
      - a. Some reluctance with recruitment, so working on this, hoping to make it regular - we really like this concept!
    - 5. Applicant FAQ's (myth busters)
      - a. About to be published online - light hearted and encouraging!
    - 6. Graduate Profiles + Map of options

- a. Work in progress, some technical difficulties in creating this, also will need help finding examples of some fields.

d. Treasurer

- i. Subs:
  - 1. Each university need to contact Gareth with their total vet student numbers
  - 2. Dublin: 550 students
- ii. Each university's accounts
  - 1. In theory AVS Central needs oversight over all AVS branches accounts. If possible, could each university send me a copy of their cash book/copy of recent bank statements
- iii. AVS Sports Weekend
  - 1. Invoices are ready to go. Please send the money asap. If you can pay today, even better.

e. Secretary

f. JAVS

- i. Apologies for not being there due to illness.
- ii. Despite delays JAVS Lite should have been sent out to you by now, thank you to all those who submitted something for that.
- iii. JAVS Autumn edition is currently being edited by myself, thank you again to all the really good submissions I hope you all enjoy reading them. Topics were diverse and some contentious articles which is good. If anyone has any talks or events, even if you don't want it to go to print, send through a short article please. They can be as short as 150 words (photo too please!) so it can go up on the website- it looks really good for any potential sponsors of talks and things too if they know other vet schools will hear about it.
- iv. In order to keep costs at a minimum, if reps could continue to check how many copies they actually need and let me know. Its also needed to ensure that accurate readership numbers are recorded for advertising. Bristol Uni is advertising their intercalated degree in the next two issues, if anyone knows any other degree or college or company or anyone who wants to advertise, get them in touch with me please.
- v. In future may try to extend "how to" articles, such as "how to get the most out of cardiology rotation" and have a advice from different cardiologists for example, so keep an eye on facebook so that we can try to get a range of advice from as many vet schools as possible.
- vi. Please send summaries to the website of any talks/events
- vii. Please let him know the accurate representation of number of JAVS copies needed

g. Website Manager

- i. Facebook engagement is going well
- ii. Please push both IVSA and AVS posts equally
- iii. PLease complete your who you are profiles (by 14th October)

h. Welfare

- i. Welfare day the main focus at the moment
- ii. Other projects:
  - 1. Peer-review report has been finished, awaiting BVA approval
  - 2. Welfare report still ongoing.

- i. IVSA
  - i. **IVSA/AVS relationship** - seems to be working well.
  - ii. **AVS reps** - please continue to share what IVSA is and opportunities such as scholarships and congress, also engage in social media posts. Trying to contact currently all the ivsa exchange reps to clarify what role is and make sure they have enough support to organise a group exchange. May try and reach out through you to harder to contact unis e.g. cambridge and dublin. Been working on how to exchange documents and rep handbooks etc.
    - 1. Issues have been raised regarding how each university will react to AVS seeming to 'take over' IVSA roles, but what's most important is that students are getting the information.
    - 2. Use your discretion upon individual circumstances
  - iii. **Antibiotic resistance** - see above
  - iv. **Congress** - we had 5 delegates attend in Vienna, I have contacted them and they had an amazing time. Waiting on a report which we can post on social media/in JAVS if we have get it in time. Next event is EVSS in Utrecht (Rosie attending) followed by symposium in USA.
  - v. **Medsin** - talked about elsewhere but discussion about sharing exchange ideas between IVSA reps and medsin exchange reps. Also collaboration on public health campaigns.
  - vi. **BSAVA International Affairs committee** - I attended beginning of september. More promoting what BSAVA can do for international IVSA members so I am going to email MOD to promote overes student e-membership.
  - vii. **Overseas committee group at BVA**: no longer happens
  - viii. **New website** - so go have a look!
  - ix. **VPH journal** - calling for articles. Rosie is going to write one so UK has an input but if anyone else wants to/ we have related JAVS articles that could be included then would be good.
  - x. **One health congress** is also happening and Rosie is on JWG for the **world healthcare students symposium 2017**

## 8. Sports weekend

- a. Becky gave an update regarding sports weekend and answered questions asked

## 9. Congress:

- a. Ellie gave an update regarding congress and answered questions asked

## 10. Senior Reps reports and updates: **Enclosure 4**

- a. Cambridge
- b. Dublin
- c. Edinburgh
- d. Glasgow
  - i. Congrats to Laura Muir for being a top vet student running in the Olympics, and breaking the British record twice!
- e. Liverpool
  - i. Clothing will be taken on by Seamus
- f. Nottingham
- g. RVC
- h. Surrey

- i. More students (first year is now 120)
- ii. Resit:
  - 1. You can find all the university's rules and regulations regarding exams on their website.

11. Any other business